

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	East Timor
Program Title:	Support for Democratic Transition
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	472-003
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$10,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$2,316,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$7,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2001
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2004

Summary: USAID's program to support East Timor's post-conflict democratic development includes four components: (1) increasing public participation in national and local governance by strengthening independent media, political parties, advocacy-oriented civil society organizations, and fostering civilian oversight of uniformed forces; (2) improving citizens' access to justice through strengthening judicial institutions, training judicial personnel, expanding the reach of legal aid groups, and increasing citizens' knowledge of rights, responsibilities and legal processes; (3) strengthening government and independent institutions, including new legislative and executive bodies at the national and local level, to implement democratic processes, adopt effective legislation, and deliver services to communities; and (4) support for the World Bank's Transitional Support Program, which provides budget support to the East Timor government. USAID's democracy program is responsive to the Council of Ministers' development priorities which include strengthening administrative structures and elective authorities, and strengthening the justice system, including customary and formal systems.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Increasing Public Participation in Governance (\$2,000,000 ESF). Civil society organizations in both Dili and the districts will receive assistance to develop advocacy and public outreach skills and build organizational and institutional capacity, leading to greater citizen engagement in national and local governance. USAID will support the efforts of community groups to strengthen the responsiveness of local government, political parties, and the National Parliament, while helping citizens articulate and solve their own problems without relying on government resources. Technical assistance will help establish an enabling legal environment for civic organizations. USAID media programs will enhance the professionalism of editors and journalists, develop sustainable management practices, improve the legal environment, and support the establishment of a Public Broadcasting Service. USAID will supplement technical assistance with small grants to local radio and newspapers. A successful program fostering constructive civil-military relations will be maintained. Principal contractors and grantees are: National Democratic Institute (prime), Catholic Relief Services (prime), Internews (prime), International Republican Institute (prime).

Improving Citizen Access to Justice (\$1,500,000 ESF). USAID will help East Timor develop its nascent judicial system. Judges, prosecutors and public defenders in national and district courts will receive a mix of technical assistance and training to improve skills and capacity. USAID will support legal aid services, more efficient court administration and procedures, alternative dispute resolution, and public information campaigns to further citizens' knowledge of justice. Small grants will provide essential materials and equipment to the formal justice sector and support judicial monitoring and advocacy by civil society organizations. Principal contractors and grantees are: Asia Foundation (prime), International Development Law Organization (sub), International Foundation for Election Systems (prime).

Strengthening Government and Independent Institutions (\$1,000,000 ESF). USAID's technical assistance to East Timor's new legislative and executive bodies will lead to legislative drafting procedures

that are transparent, well-informed, and reflect public input into decision-making processes. USAID will support institutions such as the Ombudsman's office and the State Secretariat for Social Services that address the needs of potentially vulnerable groups, including veterans. Principal contractors and grantees: Asia Foundation (prime), International Foundation for Election Systems (prime).

The Program Support Initiative (PSI) (\$1,500,000 ESF). PSI supports the three program areas above with small grants and operational costs. These grants can be provided directly to local organizations or Timorese government or independent institutions as specific needs arise to support USAID's strategic objective of strengthening democracy. Principal contractor: Development Alternatives Inc., (prime).

Transitional Support Program (\$4,000,000 ESF). USAID will transfer \$4 million to the Transitional Support Program, a World Bank-administered fund that serves as the new East Timor Government's recurrent cost and capital spending budget.

FY 2004 Program:

USAID intends to use FY 2004 resources to support ongoing activities mentioned below and provide initial support to possible new democracy activities that will be identified during the development of a new country strategy for FY 2005-2009:

- Increasing Public Participation in Governance (\$1,000,000 ESF). USAID plans to maintain support for civil society organizations, the media, and political parties to increase citizen participation.
- Improving Citizen Access to Justice (\$1,250,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support justice sector programs to address economic governance issues including anti-corruption initiatives and government public information capacity and mechanisms.
- Strengthening Government and Independent Institutions (\$1,250,000 ESF). USAID intends to support public participation in policy development and legislative drafting, and may place additional emphasis on the development of local government structures.
- Transitional Support Program (\$4,000,000 ESF). USAID intends to transfer a final tranche of \$4 million to the World Bank-administered Transitional Support Program.

Performance and Results: USAID played an important role in the development and ratification of East Timor's constitution in FY 2002. Constitutional experts provided technical assistance and training to the newly elected Constituent Assembly, charged with drafting the constitution. The USAID team helped prepare options papers on key issues such as anti-corruption, land and property, and judicial independence. USAID programs promoted broad and informed public participation by producing information materials for the Constituent Assembly to use in its public consultations on the Constitution; providing training and resources to strengthen the Constituent Assembly's press office in its interaction with the public; bringing in observer groups representing civil society and the University of East Timor; and organizing dialogue sessions for civil society groups, journalists, and government officials on constitutional issues.

After the adoption of the constitution, USAID supported the Constituent Assembly as it transitioned into the National Parliament. USAID programs helped develop basic parliamentary rules and procedures, such as the establishment of committees, public hearings, and effective press relations. USAID support to civil society groups increased understanding about the role of parliament and facilitated constructive community interaction with national and local public and elected officials in 12 of East Timor's 13 districts on community interests and priorities such as health, education, water, and security.

USAID assistance contributed to Presidential elections in April 2002 that "clearly met international standards for freeness and fairness" according to international observers. Through effective domestic election observer programs, political party poll watcher training, and promotion of women's participation, USAID helped ensure active citizen participation and high voter turnout (86 percent). A weekly radio show and community discussion groups on the role of the President as defined by the Constitution played key roles in raising public awareness and understanding of the elections. USAID media partners provided professional and objective coverage of the elections.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

East Timor

472-003 Support for Democratic Transition	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	0	5,057
Expenditures	0	1,263
Unliquidated	0	3,794
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	374	15,475
Expenditures	10	3,298
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	374	20,532
Expenditures	10	4,561
Unliquidated	364	15,971
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	2,316
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	0	10,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	0	12,316
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	0	7,500
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	374	40,348